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California Savory
By
Frank F. Gander

Summer Care of Native Shrubs
By
Esther Clare Johnson

Garden Friends
By
Katherine V. Lewis

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
The San Diego Floral Association
ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
P. O. Box 323, San Diego, Cal.

Roland S. Hoyt, Editor
John D. Wimmer, Assoc. Editor

June, 1939
Vol. 30 No. 11

Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post Office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3. 1879.
California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.
Rates on Request
Advertising Copy should be in by the 25th of preceding month.
Subscription to Magazine, $1.00 per year; Membership $1.50 per year; Magazine and Membership combined, $2.00 per year.
Meeting held third Tuesday of each month at Floral Bldg., Balboa Park, 7:30 P. M.
Toft Printing Co., 1129 2nd St.. San Diego

California Savory . . . .

A Mint from San Miguel

By FRANK F. GANDER

On the twenty-first day of May in 1904 a young man was laboriously making his way up the steep trail which leads up the north side of San Miguel Mountain. This mountain is a little south of east of the central part of San Diego, and while it rises only to 2,573 feet, it is so near the city (only some ten miles out) that it seems to tower over its nobler but more distant fellows. Certainly, to one climbing up its steep sides on a warm day in May, the top seems very high, indeed.

The young man of whom I write, H. P. Chandler, was a college student and much interested in botany. As he climbed along the trail, he looked carefully at the various plants he passed, stopping occasionally to examine those of special interest. He found the beautiful Chaparral Pea (**Pickeringia montana** var. **tomentosa**) with its pink-magenta flowers, the Chaparral Arbutus (**Comarostaphylos diversifolia**) which in July and August often reddens whole hill slopes with its bright berries, and the tall Southern Mountain Misery (**Chamaebatia foliolosa** var. **australis**) which filled the sun-lit air with its spicy pungency.

The day was warm and the way was steep so the young botanist often stopped in the scant shade of bushes slightly taller than the rest to wipe the perspiration from his forehead and to wait for his breathing and the beating of his heart to become less violent. As he neared the top, he came into a little hollow somewhat sheltered from the direct rays of the sun, and where, therefore, the chaparral stood dense and tall. A fairly definite strip of shade bordered the path, so the man dropped into its welcome coolness to rest. As he brushed against the undershrubs, he noticed a strong minty fragrance, somewhat like pennyroyal but savoring, too, of peppermint. Not recognizing the odor, he glanced around and was overjoyed to find within reach of his hand a shrub which he had never seen before. Its soft green, heart-shaped leaves were opposite, and its creamy white flowers were two-lipped, so he knew that his nose had not erred in placing the plant as a member of the mint family, but its name he did not know.

The student gathered specimens, pressed them and dried them, then sent them to Prof. T. S Brandegee, famous botanist of California. Prof. Brandegee recognized the plant as one unknown to science and one which should be named. After careful study he called it, "**Calamintha Chandleri,**" thus providing a lasting memorial to its discoverer whose work in botany was cut short by his untimely death in 1918. Several years later, Dr. W. L. Jepson disagreed with Prof. Brandegee's diagnosis of the plant and placed it in the genus, **Satureja**, so that the name became **Satureja Chandleri** (Brandegee) Jepson.

In April, 1934, I followed in Chandler's footsteps—panting up the steep places, wiping perspiration from my forehead repeatedly, and thrilling at the plant rarities which I found along the trail. I, too, dropped into the welcome shade in the little hollow and was delighted with the pleasant minty fragrance which encompassed me, I, too, thrilled to the discovery of a shrub which I had never seen before and for which I had no name. But unlike my predecessor I was able to find the name by reference to a botany of California. There I also learned that in the intervening years, this plant had been found no place else in all the world. Since then it has been found at San Antonio Del Mar in Baja California by Dr. Carl Epling of U. C. L. A., in a canyon near Murietta by two students from Pomona College, and on Jamul Mountain by the writer. Undoubtedly, there are still hidden colonies of it to be discovered.

So pleased was I by this lovely undershrub that I took a small plant of it home with me and planted it in my yard. It thrived and sent up sprouts from around the base. Several of these I took off and gave to friends. Then I discovered that it would grow readily from cuttings and also from seed.

(Continued on Page 5)

Summer Care of Native Shrubs

By ESTHER CLARE JOHNSON

The advent of summer brings to many minds the perplexing question of how to care for native shrubs during the long hot and dry months we are now entering. Should they be watered? If so, how much water is safe for them?

The answer involves some knowledge of the plants in their native habitat, as well as out of it. Everyone knows, I assume, that these plants are water shy as a result of climatic conditions which have bred in them the ability to subsist through the summer with no moisture other than the dews of heaven, if any. But there is the ever present problem of handling them in the well tended garden in the manner that will be acceptable to them in their new and unnatural surroundings.

Before we go into that phase of the matter, it should be remembered that in the nursery these plants have been subjected to daily waterings from the seedling stage and have so become inured to plenty of moisture. As a matter of fact, we find that they pass out promptly if they are allowed to dry out. But during their nursery training they have been given the best of drainage, a condition that is indispensable to them throughout their lives. Because of this year or more of coddling in the nursery, it will readily be understood that the plants will demand somewhat similar handling for the first summer after being placed in the garden, always remembering that they must have perfect drainage wherever they may be placed, and that they be not subjected to continuous run-off from other parts of the garden. To insure this condition the plants should be placed in the high points taking advantage of every possible bit of slope that is available. Then they will safely take, and must have, their regular waterings with the rest of the garden during their first summer.

One summer will see your native shrubs safely through this transition period from the nursery to conditions that may simulate entirely those of their native habitat. The normal winter rains will help to further establish them in their natural routine and when the second summer comes it may be safely assumed that the plants have grown up, insofar as caring for themselves goes.

They should, of course, have some care. Moderate cultivation is indicated, and some occasional pruning to shape the plant may be in order. As to fertilizer, be careful. We find in the nursery that most of them respond to a little forcing in that respect, but it is not general practice. A very little plant food will brighten up the foliage and produce a handsomer shrub, but in general we are inclined to be wary of stimulation. If you have a gardener and he is one of those who believes that all plants should

(Continued on Page 8)

Dahlia Pests

Spraying should be done once a week after sundown. A preparation of 1 teaspoonful of black leaf 40 and 2 spoons of Garden Volck to 1 gallon of water is highly recommended against aphis, plant lice, curly leaf or thrip. Even if no disease is apparent, the spray will do no harm.

Slugs, snails and cutworms are most destructive when the plant is small, often eating the eyes completely out of the tuber. The best cure is to sprinkle late in the evening slacked lime, snarol or powdered tobacco around the plant. A collar made of wire window screening placed around the dahlia will prevent snails from attacking the plants.

If the leaves later in the season turn white, a sign of mildew, the latter may be destroyed by dusting the plants lightly with powdered sulphur on a sunny morning.

M. C. Pfefferkorn

Advertising Along Highways

Beauty there in place of ugliness, as seen by Richard S. Requa, local architect, and expressed in a year old issue of The Union, bears repeating.

"A recent issue of the Readers Digest reprinted a suggestion from the House and Garden which contained the germ of a very excellent idea. Following is the suggestion:

'Why wouldn't it be a good idea for some longheaded and altruistic manufacturer, instead of marring the landscape with signboards, to take over a hundred or so sections of barren public highway, plant them with trees and shrubs, and maintain the planting? A modest sign would give him credit. Instead of billposters he would employ gardeners. Instead of ugliness he would create beauty for the weary roadside pilgrim.'

At the present time the highway entering San Diego from the north has been widened and otherwise improved. Why couldn't a group of local manufacturers, dealers, hotel men and merchants be interested in forming an organization for improving this highway between the city limits and Mission Bay Park.

Neat signs, small yet easily read from passing automobiles, could be placed at intervals giving credit to the individual or firm responsible for the improvement of each particular section. The city might be prevailed upon to assist in the maintenance.

Why shouldn't San Diego receive the credit for inaugurating an idea that is so very commendable and would receive universal acclaim. I know that thousands of our citizens feel as I do that the large garish signboards continually affronting the traveler along our picturesque highways are obtrusive blots on the landscape. Personally, I refuse to patronize concerns who resort to such offending methods to advertise their services and products.

It is obvious that advertisers who cooperate in a movement to improve, rather than detract from the beauty of our scenery, will receive the good will and hearty support of visitors as well as the public spirited citizens of this community."

My Garden Friends

Do you garden lovers from other states remember how strange and unfamiliar many of the plants of Southern California were to you and how difficult it was to become really acquainted with them? Perhaps you felt as I did that you too had left all your old friends in your home garden, when you stood at the nursery viewing the rows of plants in tin cans. As months passed, however, you found that you were acquiring a new circle of plant friends.

As our California garden takes form in virgin soil on a dry sunny slope, we are making friends with the delightful plants chosen for their particular fitness for certain spots and you may have just the place for some of these plants.

The fragrant "Honey Bells", Mahernia verticillata, gracefully drapes a low slope and associates happily with the sweet white Diosma ericoides, "Breath of Heaven", and the drought-resistant rock rose, Cistus. There are many kinds of Cistus and they are extremely adaptable.

The charming white flowered, sweet scented evergreen "Star Jasmine", Trachelospermum jasminoides, is slowly forming a handsome green wall for the patio. In a breezy corner, Viburnum Carlesi is a joy with its deliciously fragrant pinkish white balls of bloom at Easter time. A very special favorite is a tall slim silvery shrub with silky leaves shimmering in the ocean breezes, "Jupiters Beard" Anthyllis barba-jovis, the white flowers erect in clover-like heads.

If you have not grown the "Geralton wax flower" with its clusters of mauve-pink blossoms and heather-like foliage, there is a treat in store for you.

The beautiful "Riceflower," Pimelea ferruginea, attracts a great deal of attention. It grows from two to three feet high, has dark green leaves and a great profusion of rose-pink flowers. It is reputedly short lived and I am sure we shall bid these handsome plants a sad farewell if they must pass.

(Continued on Page 7)

The Johnson Nursery Company of La Mesa has pioneered the propagation and growing of Native Plants. When Mrs. Johnson calls for a more rational treatment of these individualists of the garden, she speaks with authority. Amateur gardeners who seek to transport something of the beauty of our hills and canyons to their gardens should by all means read in this issue her remarks on summer care.

Boronia, another plant of the past generation of gardeners has been found twice within the year by the editor, seeming to indicate a return of this curious, colorful, intensly fragrant flowering bush. Grow them in a pot on the terrace or in the house for late winter flowering. To have them permanently, or even semi-so, they must be planted out in a cool place that is well drained, perfectly so, even to pure sand with a little leafmould added. The plant must be sheared back after flowering and later, pinching resorted to for a compact form and full show of color. This comes in unusual shades of red-maroon, dark, virile crimson, purple and, sometimes, yellow. If you don't find them, as he did, they may be grown up from seed to bloom at 12" within the year. The florist is more apt to have them than the nurseryman.—R.S.H.

Mrs. Herbert Evans reports two outstanding acquisitions for her garden on Lewis Street. An especially clear pink chrysanthemum comes from Mrs. Fred Croft of Spring Valley. A new flame rose, Angels Mateu, is described as very large, perfectly formed, full petaled, of good stem for cutting all season. The plant is erect, with dark green foliage that is glossy and quite resistant to disease. Old rose flushed with orange affords a play in color that is outstanding. It has the fragrance of ripe blackberries.

PATRONIZE
CALIFORNIA GARDEN
ADVERTISERS

Watch the Bugs

A little pest control work is now in order. On the Rose Bushes for Aphis, Mildew and Black Spot a combination treatment is now being very generally recommended one teaspoon Barfoot Rotenone, two teaspoons Barfoot Spreader, two teaspoons Coposil and one gallon water, thoroughly wet all parts of the plants. Another good Rose Spray is Fungusol Emulsion also Garden Volck. No matter what kind of Spray is used, the most important thing is the application, the spray should be applied with some force not just sprinkled on the bushes. One should either use some kind of a compressed air sprayer or one that is used on your garden hose. There are several kinds of these hose sprayers some that use cartridges and others in which one may use any standard liquid spray. We much prefer the latter kind as you do not have the bother of looking up the particular kind of cartridge suitable for the particular make of sprayer you may happen to have, and one may be more accurate in the strength of the solution that gets on the plant. For Snails and Slugs the new baits are far more effective than the old ones, you simply put the bait around in little piles and the snails and slugs come to it, eat their fill, and pass out of this world. A couple of the standard brands are the New Snarol and Bug-Geta, either one is very efficient. Try some London Purple on those pesky Ants, it usually works.

Walter Birch, Jr.

Miss Mary Bates and Katherine V. Lewis live in a little Garden on the sunny western slope of Muirlands above La Jolla. They are inveterate gardeners. They know what they are about and seem to get the right plant for its place, combing the nurseries tirelessly for rarities. Any person who can grow the spoon-leaved cupflower here as a sod. in grass, and flowers the delicate violet-cress, deserves an audience. Read in this issue of some of their "friends". We will hope to hear of others later.

Book Reviews . . . . .

ALICE GREER and LESTER ROWNTREE

Alaska Wild Flowers

Any one really interested in wild flowers cannot limit his interest to the wild flowers of his own state or country—even though he may wish that he could.

This much needed book on the wild flowers of Alaska (Sharples; Alaska Wild Flowers; Stanford University Press, $3.00) is going to be received with delight by various groups of enthusiasts. Tourists who make the summer trip north will need it, whether they are botanists or not, and all wild flower lovers will want it, even though they never go to Alaska.

The material is presented in handy form and in a simple alphabetical arrangement, beginning with Acer and ending with Zygadenus. Each species is given both its Latin name and its common name (if it has one); then follows a short description and some habitat notes. The photographs are plentiful and some of them are very good.

One rather wishes that the author had added a few cultural instructions or suggestions, for though certain of the Alaskan wild flowers are also found in California, one longs to experiment with some of the Geraniums, Campanulas, Polemoniums and the like, to see what these flowers from a country of short bright summers and long, dark, cold winters would do in our snowless winters and hot, dry (or foggy) summers.

Lester Rowntree,
Carmel, California.

Gardens and Gardening

Another volume of the lovely "Gardens and Gardening" is out. (Studio Ltd. $4.50). This is the eighth issue and happy is the person who has all eight of them.

This volume contains the usual superb pictures and landscaping articles of the usual high merit by well known garden designers of America and Europe.

In the illustrated sections are photographs of especially clever treatments of formal gardens and perennial borders (we see too few of these in California) and there are some pictures of little known and much desired flowers among the plant photographs—an especially good one of **Tulipa biflora turkestanica,** two of **Ramondia pyrenaica,** and one of the lovely **Oxalis bowieana.** Most of these are from plants in English gardens.

The section on Ornamental Features is fascinating, with its dovecotes, fountains, novel garden lighting arrangements, sundials, trellises and gates.

One leafs the pages over and over, not wanting to be done with so lovely a book, and at last lays it with its predecessors, a precious pile to return to when, tired of horticultural data, one wants only to look and to enjoy.

Lester Rowntree,
Carmel, California.

What to Do With Herbs

Does not the very word, "herbs", conjure to your mind memories of cool walks between friendly plants, with the bees and the butterflies hovering near blossom stalks, and the breezes wafting aromatic odors, which give zest to your being? Nay, perhaps the word denotes to you the delicacies of rare viands and tempting dishes to tickle the palate of the epicure.

Either way you put it, you will find the gratification of that conjuring in the delightful book, "What to Do with Herbs", by Mary Cable Dennis (E. P. Dutton & Co. March 1939, $1.50). This little volume of eighty-seven pages is, by the way, as pleasing to look at, as easy to handle, as refreshing to read, because of its informality and its diction, as the very herbs themselves.

Mrs. Dennis takes us down the paths of her herb garden in France. She calls her herbs by name, yet does not stagger us with technicalities, and twisty terms. We can see her plants and her blooms, we can smell them. We imbibe, with no mental effort, knowledge of the culture of the plants, of their harvesting secrets, of their cure, and best of all, for the utilitarian, and for those of us who enjoy that little elusive somethingness of the French cuisine, we tumble upon numberless simple tricks connected with the uses of herbs in the kitchen. Yes, in the laundry, the bath, the linen closet, and the sick room the lowly herb works its charm. Mrs. Dennis says:

"After the angelica comes the tarragon. Now if I could have only one herb in my garden I should certainly choose tarragon, for it is to my mind the most delightful and the most useful. The leaves stripped from their stem, go into almost every salad, they combine well with chervil or parsley, and even alone they add a most delightful touch. Here I should like to have a word or two about salads in general." And then, in her pleasing manner, Mrs. Dennis compares the French method with the American method of salad preparation and salad serving, much, I fear, to the disparagement of the American.

I know that when you have spent a refreshing two hours playing with this book, you will feel as if the fragrant breezes of a friendly French garden were buoying you up. Then it will be that you will don your bonnet and gayly visit the nurserymen in search of lavender, balm, rosemary, lovely blue borage, elder, fennel, angelica, sage, and verbena, and from that day forth your salads, your sausage, and even your carrots will be prepared a la Mrs. Dennis.

Alice Greer.

Commercial Flowers

Commercial Flower Growing by Alex Laurie and G. H. Poesch, (P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1939, $3.00) comes out in a new dress in its second edition with 422 pages and 235 illustrations. The authors, both professors of floriculture at the Ohio State University speak

with authority to both the layman and to the professional.

The work is very comprehensive, with splendid charts, tables and a good index, the lack of which makes many a book undesirable. "Now", write the authors, "more than ever the quickly changing picture of our economic life necessitates economy and efficiency of production together with fundamental information on plant growth if the producer is to succeed and prosper. With this in mind the empirical methods of former days have been analyzed and the best of the practical measures retained in the recommendations given."

Perhaps to us in Southern California the sections dealing with greenhouse construction and heating are not of such interest or value as are the excellent chapters dealing with soils, fertilizers, bulbs, corms, foliage plants, pot plants and cut flowers.

The compact size of the book, the clarity of its arrangement, its concise and accurate information, its diversification in types of material treated all make it a book very worth the possession by both the student and by the professional.

Alice Greer.

Garden Show in Retrospect

I can not let this opportunity pass without saying a word of praise and appreciation for our last flower show. Each year it has grown better, as it should, if we are to progress. I well remember the first flower show. Mrs. A. D. Robinson and I went the town over in quest of encouragement and prizes. We got both.

Our first show was in every way a success. We did not have the place or the equipment that we have today. Flowers were brought in lug boxes and we had to sort out the best. Our good friend Mr. Bernard was a great help to us. It was he who taught the competitors how to pack their flowers and arrange them. We each brought our own vases and we did not have our beautiful park to supply background for us. To see such improvement as our last show, which was almost perfection, is very gratifying to one who has not missed entering but six times in the thirty-two years since it was started and has taken from one to three first prizes at each show. This is not boasting but the results of affection and hard work. I can not express the appreciation I feel for those who have worked so faithfully and long in this good cause. Moving about in the perfect and beautiful blossoms, these two outstanding persons, Mrs. M. Greer and Miss K. Sessions, gave life and enthusiasm to the entire surroundings. Without them even the beauty of the flowers would have been dimmed—May they long be with us and God Bless them Both.

Mrs. F. T. Scripps.

California Savory

(Continued from Page 1)

I propagated a number of plants and gave them away with the hopes of establishing this worthwhile native in cultivation. Still later, I grew others for distribution to the nurseries so that it is now available from some dealers.

Not only is the plant of nice appearance and of pleasing fragrance, but it also has real value as an herb. The leaves may be used in place of either mint or summer savory. They give a delightful bouquet and delicious flavor to tea; they add much to baked apples or pears, or apples and sweet potatoes. Anyone who likes to prepare dishes with a new flavor will find many ways of using the pretty leaves of this fragrant herb.

If you plant the California Savory in your yard, be sure to give it good drainage and partial shade. By watering it through the dry summer months, you may have fresh leaves and the dainty white flowers throughout the year. It will stand summer drouth if somewhat protected from the mid-day sun, but under such conditions, it becomes dormant, loses some of its leaves, and in other ways husbands what moisture it can get.

FRANK F. GANDER
Curator of Botany
Natural History Museum

Poison Oak a Menace

With the outdoor season at hand, a few notes on treatment for poison oak or ivy are offered for both those who are susceptible and the person who is to meet the gentleman for the first time.

Personal hygienic measures, particularly washing thoroughly with soap and hot water immediately after contact or exposure, is usually effective in preventing a resulting dermatitis.

Most authorities recommend as a prophylactic measure, the local application to the skin of a mild oxidizing agent, such as a 5 per cent ferric chloride solution, or a 2 per cent aqueous solution of potassium permanganate, immediately after exposure. These preparations, while often effective in preventing the development of the dermatitis, have the disadvantage of producing a marked but transient discoloration of the skin.

An alternative preventive measure, which is also based on the oxidization of the toxic element in the plant, and which has been successful in many cases, is the application to the skin of a dusting powder composed of 10 per cent benzoyl peroxide in talcum powder, prior to or immediately after exposure to the plant. This method is recommended as being preferable to the ferric chloride or potassium permanganate, in that it does not discolor the skin: however, in using this preparation, precaution must be taken to avoid any open flame, as the powder is inflammable.

The local application to the skin of equal parts of glycerine and water, following exposure,, has also been recommended.

A bulletin has been issued by the U. S. Public Health Service describing the etiological symptoms, prevention, and treatment of poison oak dematitis.

The next issue will carry an article by R. R. McLean who treats the subject from the local aspect and in some detail.

Problems of the Soil . . . .

By R. R. McLEAN, County Agricultural Commissioner

Question—What kind of fertilizer should I use on my lawn to bring out the green? It still looks brown and I am quite sure needs some fertilizer.—W.S.

Answer—Lawns should look their best at this time of year. The quickest results will be obtained from the use of sulphate of ammonia. Dissolve a couple of handfuls in a two gallon sprinkling can of water and sprinkle this over the lawn as even as possible. A sprinkling can full should cover from 75 to 100 square feet of lawn. It is better to use a little and repeat the dose in 2 or 3 weeks than to apply a large amount at one time. If used too strong the grass will be burned. Sulphate of ammonia can be mixed with sand and broadcasted dry, but it is harder to apply it evenly in this manner and there is more danger of burning. After the sulphate of ammonia has been used, wet down the lawn well. When the grass is well started, follow the sulphate of ammonia with a blood and bone fertilizer. This, with plenty of water, should put your lawn in a good, thrifty condition.

Question—I have a jasmine or jessamine vine that is covered with rough and large warts or galls all over the stems. The vine does not grow as it should, it seems to me, and I would like to know what can be done for it.—Miss L.

Answer—This is apparently a bacterial trouble similar to that known as crown gall of many trees and plants. It is quite generally found on what is known as Carolina Jessamine, which may possibly be the vine you have reference to. In any event, there does not appear to be any remedy other than to remove heavily infected vines and replant with clean stock. Where there are only a few galls, they can be carefully cut out and the cut surfaces distinfected. Bichloride of mercury (corrosive sublimate), one 7.3 grain tablet to a pint of water, makes a good disinfectant.

Question—So many leaves on a tree are puffy and curled. They are dropping also and fruit is shedding. Can you tell me what causes this?—Mrs. B. M.

Answer—Peach leaf curl is caused by a fungus that winters over under the bud scales and becomes active as the leaves are unfolding in the spring. When the disease becomes evident on the new leaves it is too late for any effective treatment so that the only practical thing to do is to prevent its appearance if possible. This is accomplished by means of preventive sprays, lime-sulphur solution being the material most commonly used. Wet, cold spring weather such as the present has been, is favorable to the development of curl leaf, and under such circumstances peach growers usually spray twice, the first time as the buds are swelling and again as the blossom buds are cracking open, showing just a trace of pink. It is safe practice to spray every year at least once, inasmuch as one cannot know if the disease will appear until after the buds open, when it is too late for control. When one spray only is given, you should wait until the buds are cracking open and use lime sulphur solution, one pound of dry lime-sulphur to five gallons of water.

Question—Leaves of double nasturtiums are spotted with yellow and seem to be dying. Please advise cause and cure.—H.R.

Answer — Pathologists of the State Department of Agriculture, to whom specimens were sent, state that the diseased condition is caused by a virus known as spotted wilt. Apparently nothing can be done but to destroy affected plants. Healthy plants should be sprayed with a tobacco or pyrethrum solutions to destroy insects, since these virus diseases are usually conveyed from plant to plant by means of these pests.

(Continued on Page 8)

New Members

The following is a list of new members of the **Floral Association** and subscribers to the **California Garden.** This association has served the purpose of garden minded people for many years. If each member could merely call the attention of a likely friend to this service, the membership and the quality of service itself would be materially increased.

San Diego:
George H. Gibson
Mrs. Frank Root
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May Meeting

The assurance of an unusual, interesting meeting of the San Diego Floral Association was realized when two editors of the California Garden magazine were the speakers at the monthly May meeting. The present editor, Mr. Roland S. Hoyt, spoke on "Design in Small Gardens," dwelling on points developed during the last garden judging. Mr. Silas Osborne, a California horticultural inspector, talked on "Geraniums."

Mr. Hoyt who is a landscape architect, presented his subject in the form of a seminar, giving the attendance valuable and instructive information in regard to the plot of ground called the garden with a feeling of union with the house.

Many specimens were used by Mr. Osborne as he described the varied assortment of "Geraniums." "The numerous garden plants or flowers universally called Geraniums," said Mr. Osborne, "are not Geraniums, but are Pelargoniums. The true Geraniums are the wild crane's bill, a perennial, and shares with the erodiums the curious form of seed-vessels which, when immature, resemble long - billed cranes." He mentioned the singles, semi-doubles and doubles but considered the singles for best blossoms. Pelargoniums do best located in "half-sun"—some shade—but do not like full shady places, and neither will they do well if the location is too wet or too dry. Cuttings from half ripened wood are best.

An unusual vine, one of the epiphyllums, was exhibited by Mr. Jerebek also Beaumontia grandiflora, having large white blossoms and handsome green foliage.

Mrs. Greer, president, gave reports on the Spring Flower Show, the results being most satisfactory, and announced that at the next meeting on June 20 there will be an election of officers, and a social time with refreshments. A suggestion by Mrs. Greer that a "Geranium Show" be held in the Floral building at a near future date was met with hearty response by the association's members. G.M.G.

1 Kilogram Oil From 4.000 Kilogram Roses

The roses from which the famous essential oil of roses is produced only thrive in very few countries. Apart from Persia, where an excellent attar of roses is produced, Bulgaria is particularly famous for its production of roses and essential oil of roses. The whole fragrancy of the east is bound up with the names of Karlowo, Klissura, Kasanlik. Vast rose fields extend around the southern hills of the Balkan ranges, where the air is filled with fragrant odors in the flowering season. Bulgaria, a comparatively small country, would be able to meet almost the entire demand of the world for essential oil of roses. As rose oil is an ingredient of nearly every scent, many countries have attempted to build up their own rose oil industry. All these efforts, however, were doomed to failure, because the production in Bulgaria is favored by many circumstances through which a very high quality and a luxuriant growth of the roses is obtained.

The exportation of rose attar, which was one of the main sources of the national income of Bulgaria before the war has considerably decreased in post-war times. The chief reason for this decline may be found in the high price of oil, all the more so as the chemical industry is now supplying scent manufacturers with synthetic perfumes, most of them tar derivatives, which are considerably cheaper. The high price for the essential oil of roses is not surprising if it is considered that more than 4.000 kilograms of rose flowers are necessary to produce 1 kilogram of essential oil.

In former times the scent industry of France used to buy the major part of the rose oil produced in Bulgaria, but within recent years Germany's share in the consumption of Bulgarian rose oil has increased, a fact which may be illustrated by the following figures: In 1934 France bought 580 kos, while Germany bought hardly 200 kos. In 1936 Germany's import of Bulgarian rose oil amounted to almost 400 kos, and in 1937 to a little more than 500 kos. The Bulgarian rose crop of this year attained the exceedingly high amount of 11 million kos, from which 930 kos of essential oil will be produced. If it is assumed that the import figures remain constant this would mean that Germany would take over more than half of the Bulgarian production of rose oil.

Dahlias for Size

Large flowers are obtained by disbudding. Usually 3 buds will form, take out the 2 side buds, leaving the larger middle one to develop; then take off the side shoots on the next pair of leaves below, or if you prefer real long stems, the next lower pair of side shoots may be pinched. Cut off all faded flowers and do not let seed pods form until late in the season.

M. C. Pfefferkorn.

Garden Friends

(Continued from Page 3)

Other appealing plants we like are: the ever agreeable dwarf thymes, useful for filling chinks and crevices between rocks; the bright green graceful Grevillea obtusifolia, covering the ground speedily and beautifully; a new found ground cover, the prostrate rosemary; and the very modest diminutive annual, "Violet Cress", Ionopsidium acaule, so lovely in the spring.

We are also extremely interested in our native plantings. The many lovely varieties of Ceanothus, "wild-lilac", which have been selected, present a range of blues that would fascinate the eye of any artist, and the glorious Fremontia, "Flannel bush", though somewhat elusive, is a prize when well grown.

As the special plants develop and our garden takes form, we realize that garden design and a garden plan are indispensable. We are sure also, that we are obtaining more permanent results, saving time and money, and best of all deriving infinitely more pleasure and satisfaction, even in our small garden, because we secured the services of a landscape architect.

Katherine V. Lewis
La Jolla

Soil Problems

(Continued from Page 6)

Question: I have a fine hedge of Monterey sypress but of late it has been showing quite a little brown. I am sending with this letter a small sample piece. Can you tell me what is wrong and what to do about it?—H.F.G.

Answer: A very small insect known as the greenhouse thrips is responsible for the condition of your hedge, judging by the specimen sent. In only one or two previous cases has this insect been observed by the writer to attack Monterey cypress. In the first case observed, the hedge was near an avocado grove that resisted all efforts to rid it of thrips. Finally it was found that the hedge, untreated, was re-infecting the avocado grove as fast as it was cleaned. After treating the hedge properly, the avocados immediately responded to the usual treatment, which is not difficult. Simply dust your hedge thoroughly with a strong nicodust (sold under that name), making sure that the dust penetrates the interior, or else spray with a strong solution of nicotine and water as blackleaf 40. A second spraying or dusting should be given about two weeks after the first, in order to kill the young forms that may have been in the egg stage when the first treatment was given.

Question: Cactus plants and succulents have been quite heavily infected with what I suppose is cottony cushion scale. On close examination some of the scales were found to have tiny holes in them. Also small worms, reddish in color, were observed in the scale masses. Is it possoble that these are parasites and that they will clean up on the scale?—L.K.N.

Answer: Cottony cushion scale is quite generally attacked by a ladybird beetle known as the Vedalia, a predator, and an internal parasite known only as the "dipterous parasite of the cottony cushion scale". Both of these insects the ladybird beetle and the parasite, were introduced into California from Australia for the express purpose of destroying cottony cushion scale, which also came to us from that country. Together they operate as a very effective means of control of this scale pest. The small holes in the body walls of the scale insects were made by the dipterous parasite as it emerged after consuming the body contents.

HARVESTER ANTS

Question: Large red ants are infecting my garden, both flowers and vegetable, and to date I can find nothing to kill them. I have tried lye, poisons, fire, gasoline, etc., and still they thrive.—M.M.

Answer: Presumably these are harvester ants and if so they are not easy to eradicate as they make their nests quite deep in the ground. Harvester ants usually make a slight mound, clearing away all vegetation around it, over their nests, although this is not necessarily so. You will obtain the best results if you will punch holes 8 or 12 inches deep down into their nests and into each pour three quarters to an ounce of carbon bisulphide, afterwards closing the holes tightly. Carbon bisulphide gas is heavier than air and goes downwards through the soil, killing all animal (or plant) life it comes in contact with. An ounce of this chemical to each square foot of mound or visible nest surface should be sufficient. It is inflamable and explosive if it comes in contact with fire so due caution should be observed in handling it.

Fairly good results can also be obtained by dissolving cyanide, either sodium or calcium, in water and pouring down holes punched in the nest, as for carbon bisulphide. If you use the latter, one ounce of sodium cyanide or two ounces of calcium cyanide to the gallon of water is sufficient.

Native Shrubs

(Continued from Page 2)

be treated alike, watch him carefully if you have native shrubs in your garden. Supervise any fertilizing you may decide upon with respect to these plants. Better still, do it yourself.

There is another phase of the subject that should not be neglected. It is assumed thus far that the ideal state of the native shrub is one in which it gets no summer water after it has become well established among its city cousins. That is true. But it is also true that, even with established plants, an occasional deep watering during the summer months will give you a handsomer plant and in many instances a plant that will yield more bloom through the year than the one that relies wholly upon the winter rains for its moisture. Particularly is this true of the Fremontia, which will break into bloom every now and then all through the summer if it be given a generous drink once a month. Not to the extent of its spring bloom but sufficient to brighten up its corner of the garden and to satisfy you that it really appreciates a little attention.

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Billbergia, this unique house plant may now be found in any garden, alone, cast off and in various stages of "dishabille". This plant will bloom more than one season, but best practice seems to lie in keeping ones stock young by division. When through flowering, the potted plant may be set in a shady spot in the garden to recuperate and prepare for another season. The alert gardener, however, will divide an old plant at this time, shaking out the earth and cutting away the hard side shoots. He will repot these rooted sections, discarding the spent mother plant. A 3" pot is sufficient in size, allowing for progressive potting up to 6" where the plant will flower more freely if it has been grown fast enough to crowd. Any good garden loam with one third leafmould and a dash of gravel will do. If this is started in the spring after blooming, an old plant will yield from three to seven yearlings which should make ideal Christmas gifts. They will be welcome at that time as good spots of green and by February will thrill the recipient with the strange combination of green, blue and yellow in long, narrow, pendent trumpets. Next year take this derelict apart, or do it now if the plant seems to have run its course.—R.S.H.

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